

Children's Committee
Public Hearing
March 6, 2014

Opposition of *Raised Bill No. 46*
AN ACT CONCERNING PESTICIDES ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Dear Children's Committee,

I understand that there is legislation pending that will further restrict what high schools can use to treat their athletic fields. I believe these restrictions are already in place at the middle school level. I would welcome you to visit the Nathan Hale Ray High School and the Nathan Hale Ray Middle School in East Haddam to look at the fields and see the difference effective lawn maintenance can make. This past spring, the middle school fields had to be shut down since they were in such poor condition from 2 summers of grubs having at it with no deterrent. The grass had become a minority among weeds and what was once a soft field became a very hard, unsafe playing surface.

I would ask that you scrap this bill and come up with common sense solutions to the concerns of pesticides. This Bill, if passed, will eventually turn nice, safe fields into pastures (like our middle school). Most school districts don't have the extra millions of dollars that would be needed to install artificial turf fields. In a town like East Haddam, we don't have viable fields off school grounds for youth or school sports so we need our school fields to be usable.

Regards,

Kevin Quinn
President - East Haddam Soccer Club